

AMENDED CLAIMS

received by the International Bureau on 29 October 2004 (29.10.04)
original claims 1-7, replaced by new claims 1-9 (7 pages).

WE CLAIM:

1. A swing boom assembly, comprising:

- (a) a fixed base (52);
- (b) a stubby shaft rotatably mounted on said fixed base (52);
- (c) a pivot base (46) mounted on said stubby shaft a distance from said fixed base (52) sufficient only to clear said fixed base during rotation;
- (d) a boom (14) pivotally coupled to said pivot base (46) proximate a lower end thereof and having a hydraulic piston cylinder (58) coupled between said boom (14) and an upper end of said pivot base (46) and operative to raise and lower said boom (14);

wherein said pivot base (46) has

- (i) an upper shaft (48);

(ii) a main body (52) having a pair of spaced apart clevis plates affixed to each end of said upper shaft (48);

(iii) a bearing (50) rigidly mounted around said upper shaft (48) between said clevis plates and said bearing having an outer race rigidly mounted to said fixed base (52).

2. An assembly according to claim 1, wherein said hydraulic piston cylinder (58) is pivotally coupled to said pivot base (46) at a level proximate said clevis plates.

3. An assembly according to claim 1, including a swivel actuator (48) mounted on said fixed base (52) and coupled to said stubby shaft, operative to rotate said pivot base (46).

4. An assembly according to claim 1, wherein said upper pivot shaft (48) is removable.

5. An assembly according to claim 1, wherein said fixed base (52) is part of a skidder.
6. An assembly according to claim 1, wherein said pivot base (46) is rigidly affixed to a distal portion of said stubby shaft.
7. An assembly according to claim 1, wherein said clevis plates are integral with said main body (52).
8. An assembly according to claim 1, including a lower bearing (50) coupled to a lower portion of said stubby shaft and having an outer race rigidly coupled to said fixed base (52).
9. The assembly of claim 1, including a bearing (50) coupled to a lower portion of said stubby shaft with an outer race rigidly coupled to said fixed base (52) and said pivot base (46) is rigidly affixed to said stubby shaft and including a swivel actuator (34) mounted on said fixed base (52) and coupled to said stubby shaft, operative to rotate said stubby shaft.

STATEMENT UNDER ARTICLE 19(1)

Amendment to claim 1 reciting a stubby shaft will necessitate amendment of the disclosure to transfer discussion of Figures 1-4 to the Detailed Description as much of this discussion is not prior art. Amendment of the drawings to number the "stubby shaft" and of the disclosure to change the "lower pivot shaft" to "stubby shaft".